

House Committee on Insurance

Minutes of Meeting
2020 First Extraordinary Session
June 18, 2020

I. CALL TO ORDER

Representative Chad Brown, chairman of the House Committee on Insurance, called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. in Room 3, in the state capitol in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

II. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Representative Chad Brown, chairman
Representative Edmond Jordan, vice chairman
Representative Mary DuBuisson
Representative Kathy Edmonston
Representative Michael "Gabe" Firment
Representative Lawrence "Larry" Frieman
Representative Kyle M. Green, Jr.
Representative Mike Huval
Representative John R. Illg, Jr.
Representative Sherman Q. Mack
Representative Danny McCormick
Representative Matthew Willard

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Representative Cedric B. Glover
Representative Paul Hollis

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rashida Keith, attorney
Charlotte Cravins, attorney
Christie L. Russell, committee administrative assistant

ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES PRESENT:

Myrtis Jarrell, sergeant at arms

III. DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATION

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3 by Senator Robert Mills

Senator Robert Mills presented Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3, which creates the Task Force on Log Truck and Agriculture Vehicle Liability Insurance.

Representative McCormick offered a motion to report Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3 favorably. Without objection, Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 3 was reported favorably by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, Jordan, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Huval, Illg, McCormick, and Willard voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 3 in support. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 61 by Representative Frieman

Representative Frieman presented House Bill No. 61, which provides relative to surprise billing.

Jeff Drozda, Louisiana Association of Health Plans (LAHP), 450 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 61.

Ronnell Nolan, Health Agents for American (HAFA), P.O. Box 65128, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke in support of House Bill No. 61.

Frank Opelka, Department of Insurance, 1702 N. 3rd Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802, spoke in support of House Bill No. 61.

Dr. Craig de Lanza, La. Society of Anesthesiologists, 12 Tara Place, Metairie, LA 70002, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 61.

Dr. Randy Pilgram, SCP Health, 200 Corporate Blvd., Lafayette, LA 70508, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 61.

Jennifer McMahon, Louisiana Hospital Association, Jefferson, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 61.

Berkley Durbin, Medicine Louisiana, P.O. Box 451, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 61.

Representative Frieman offered amendments to House Bill No. 61, which would (1) Increase the Medicare reimbursement rate from 135% to 150%; (2) Decrease the monetary threshold for

pursuing claims from less than or greater than \$1,500 to less than or greater than \$1,000; and (3) Remove the shared cost for arbitration and require the nonprevailing party to pay the arbitration fee. Representative Frieman offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 10 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, Jordan, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Huval, Illg, McCormick, and Willard voted yeas.

Representative Frieman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 61 with amendments to which Representative Huval objected. Representative Huval offered a substitute motion to voluntarily defer House Bill No. 61. The administrative assistant called the roll and the substitute motion passed by a vote of 8 yeas, 3 nays and 1 abstaining vote. Representatives Jordan, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Green, Huval, Illg, and Willard voted yeas. Representatives Frieman, Mack, and McCormick voted nays. Representative Brown abstained from voting.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 2 in support and 18 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 67 by Representative Crews

Representative Crews presented House Bill No. 67, which provides for transparency in health services pricing by in-network and out-of-network healthcare providers.

Jeff Drozda, Louisiana Association of Health Plans (LAHP), 450 Laurel Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70801, spoke for information only on House Bill No. 67.

Ronnell Nolan, Health Agents of American (HAFA), P.O. Box 65128, Baton Rouge, LA 70896, spoke in support of House Bill No. 67.

Dr. Craig de Lanza, La. Society of Anesthesiologists, 12 Tara Place, Metairie, LA 70002, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 67.

Jennifer McMahon, La. Hospital Association, Jefferson, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 67.

Berkley Durbin, Medicine Louisiana, P.O. Box 451, Baton Rouge, LA, spoke in opposition to House Bill No. 67.

Representative Illg offered amendments to House Bill No. 67 which would specify prices as "cash prices". Representative Illg offered a motion to adopt the proposed amendments. Without objection, the amendments were adopted by a vote of 8 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Huval, Illg, Mack, and McCormick voted yeas.

Representative Frieman offered a motion to report House Bill No. 67 with amendments to which

Representative Firment objected. Representative Firment offered a substitute motion to voluntarily defer House Bill No. 67. The administrative assistant called the roll and the substitute motion passed by a vote of 6 yeas, 4 nays and 1 abstaining vote. Representatives Jordan, DuBuisson, Firment, Green, Huval, and Illg voted yea. Representatives Edmonston, Frieman, Mack, and McCormick voted nay. Representative Brown abstained from voting.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 20 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

House Bill No. 72 by Representative Crews

Representative Crews presented House Bill No. 72, which provides relative to billing by noncontracted facility-based physicians.

Representative Jordan offered a motion to voluntarily defer action on House Bill No. 72. Without objection, action on House Bill No. 72 was voluntarily deferred by a vote of 11 yeas and 0 nays. Representatives Brown, Jordan, DuBuisson, Edmonston, Firment, Frieman, Green, Huval, Illg, Mack, and McCormick voted yea.

Witness cards submitted by individuals who did not speak are as follows: 1 in support and 22 in opposition. Witness cards are included in the committee records.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Chairman Chad Brown
House Committee on Insurance

Date adopted: April 22, 2021